

Message Text

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21

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 OMB-01 AID-05 /055 W

----- 129353

O R 270519Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L PHNOM PENH 5550

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CB, AS

SUBJ: POSSIBLE AUSTRALIAN PARLIAMENTARIANS' VISIT TO PHNOM PENH

REFS: (A) CANBERRA 1885

(B) STATE 067986

(C) SAIGON 3550

1. THIS EMBASSY WOULD WELCOME A VISITE TO CAMBODIA BY AN AUSTRALIAN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION, AND WILL BE AS HELPFUL AS WE CAN IN THE ARRANGEMENTS.

2. AS TO TRANSPORTATION, THERE IS A USAID-CHARTERED FLIGHT FROM BANGKOK TO PHNOM PENH AND RETURN ON TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS AND SATURDAYS. WE CAN MAKE RESERVATIONS EITHER WAY FROM HERE. IT LEAVES EARLY IN THE MORNING, SO THE PARTY SHOULD PLAN TO REACH BANGKOK NOT LATER THAN THE PREVIOUS DAY. WE HAVE SOMEWHAT LESS FLEXIBILITY IN TRANSPORTING NON-AMERICAN CITIZENS TO ANF FROM SAIGON, BUT DOUBTLESS SOMETHING CAN BE ARRANGED FOR ONWARD TRAVEL IN THAT DIRECTION IF DESIRED.

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3. FOR ACCOMMODATIONS, THE SIMPLEST WOULD BE FOR THE

DELEGATION TO STAY AT THE FORMER AUSTRALIAN AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE, NOW IN THE HANDS OF A CARETAKER. THERE WOULD ALSO BE AVAILABLE FOR THEIR TRANSPORT IN THE CITY AT LEAST TWO VEHICLES, THE PROPERTY OF THE GOA, WHICH ARE ALSO IN THE HANDS OF A CARETAKER. WE CAN ARRANGE TO HAVE BOTH PUT AT THEIR DISPOSAL IF THEY SO DESIRE. IF THEY WOULD PREFER TO AVOID IDENTIFICATION WITH THE FORMER OFFICIAL AUSTRALIAN PRESENCE HERE, WE WOULD SUGGEST THE HOTEL LE PHNOM.

4. REGARDING THE LOCAL SECURITY SITUATION, IT IS FRANKLY DIFFICULT TO GIVE ANY ASSURANCES A FEW DAYS IN ADVANCE. AS OF MARCH 27 WE SEE NO PROBLEM, BUT WOULD ASK THAT THE DELEGATION CHECK WITH US THROUGH AMEMBASSY BANGKOK THE DAY BEFORE THEIR DEPARTURE FROM BANGKOK TO PHNOM PENH. EMBASSY CANBERRA MIGHT ALSO CONSIDER WHETHER IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE FOR EMBASSY BANGKOK TO INFORM FORMER AUSTRALIAN CHARGE FRANK MILNE, NOW ASSIGNED FOR THE MOMENT TO THE AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY IN BANGKOK, OF THE TRAVEL PLANS OF THE GROUP, AT LEAST AS A COURTESY.

5. WOULD APPRECIATE NAMES AND PASSPORT NUMBERS OF THE GROUP IN ADVANCE. NO KHMER VISAS WILL BE REQUIRED.
DEAN

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